IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 12, 2002 FINAL OFFICE ACTION ACCOMPANYING RCE FILING

To:

BOX RCE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

From:

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DEC 16 2002

<u>AMENDMENTS</u>

In the Claims

Please replace the indicated claims with the following clean versions of the claims, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(i). Cancel all previous versions of any indicated claim. A marked up version showing amendments to any claims being changed is provided in one or more accompanying pages separate from this amendment in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii). Any claim not accompanied by a marked up version has not been changed relative to the immediate prior version, except that marked up versions are not being supplied for any added claim or canceled claim.